

discoveries of Florida rarities will be appreciated greatly by the author.

## LITERATURE CITED

- DARLING, THOMAS, JR. 1961. Florida Rarities. Amer. Fern Journ. **51**: 1-15.  
 ST. JOHN, EDWARD P. 1943. More About the Distribution of Ferns in Florida. Amer. Fern Journ. **33**: 59-67.

3809 LARNO DRIVE, BUSH HILL WOODS, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

**Taxonomic Notes on Ferns, III**

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The following two Jamaican ferns, in need of usable names, were brought to my attention by Mr. George L. Proctor, who is at present engaged in writing a fern flora of Jamaica.

*ANOPTERIS HEXAGONA* (L.) Prantl var. *simplicior* Morton, var. nov.

A var. *hexagona* foliis minus compositis, saepe bipinnatis, pinnis 2 basilibus tantum pinnatis, pinnulis paucis saepe tantum 2-jugis, segmentis magis elongatis saepe 2-4.5 cm. longis, pinnis apicalibus simplicibus valde serratis, serraturis saepe 13-20 utrinque latere differt.

Type in the United States National Herbarium, no. 2358069, collected on the interior summit slopes of Dolphin Head, Hanover Parish, Jamaica, on limestone rocks in deep shade, at 1500-1700 feet elevation, April 11, 1955, by George R. Proctor (no. 10023). Isotype presumably in the Institute of Jamaica.

Paratypes (all from Jamaica): Type locality, July 31, 1955, *Proctor 10409* (US); *ibid.*, March 7, 1960, *Proctor 20962* (IJ). Mount Ridgway Road, Windsor, Trelawny Parish, 100-150 m., April 9, 1931, *G. S. Miller 1557* (US). Cockpit country ca. 5 miles north of Quick Step, above Aberdeen Post Office, Trelawny Parish, occasional on moist shaded limestone ledges, March 6, 1950, *Proctor 4117* (IJ).

In its most extreme form this plant seems as though it might be a good species, closely related to *A. hexagona*, but efforts to find adequate distinguishing characters have been unavailing. These large plants cited above are all from the western half of Jamaica in the Parishes of Hanover and Trelawny. Plants of typical *A. hexagona* (as represented in Plumier's plate 37) are common in eastern Jamaica, in the Parishes of Portland, St. Ann, St. Mary, and St. Catherine. They are much smaller in general and more finely divided, being always tripinnate at base, with usually four pairs of compound pinnae and 2 or 3 pairs of simple

apical ones. In var. *simplicior*, there are usually only 2 basal pairs of compound pinnae, and these are almost always only simply pinnate although occasionally one of the basal pinnules will bear a single secondary basal lobe, thus making the blade casually tripinnate at base. The lateral segments of *hexagona* are normally only 1 to 2.5 cm. long. They are rather sparingly toothed, the apical, sterile, simple pinnae usually having 8 pairs of teeth or fewer.

However, all these characters mentioned are not really different characters but are expressions of the single character of the blade being less divided in the plants of Hanover and Trelawny Parishes. Moreover, even this character is somewhat variable. A specimen from Ewarton, St. Catherine Parish (*Killip 436*, US) would on division alone have to be referred to var. *simplicior*, although it is very likely only an unusual example of var. *hexagona*, since other specimens from this vicinity (near Mount Diablo) are typical. And there are other intermediates, among which may be mentioned especially *Orcutt 7697* (US), from Glenburnie Mountain, Westmoreland Parish; from its locality (in extreme western Jamaica) and from its size this approaches closely to var. *simplicior*, yet it is fully tripinnate at the base and so I refer it to var. *hexagona*, although with some doubt.

*ELAPHOGLOSSUM denudatum* (Jenman) Maxon, comb. nov.

*Acrostichum hybridum* var. *denudatum* Jenman, Bull. Dept. Bot. Jamaica, II, 5: 89. 1898.

Rhizome short-creeping, up to 8 cm. long, 5-7 mm. thick, densely paleaceous; scales dark brown, shining, linear-subulate, 5-7 mm. long, essentially entire; sterile fronds subcaespitose, 15-35 cm. long, long-stipitate, the stipe half as long as blade or more, glandular-pilosulous, paleaceous when young, the scales widely spreading, linear-subulate, 2-2.5 mm. long, dark brown, minutely denticulate; blades linear to linear-oblong, 8-25 cm. long, 1.7-3.5 cm. broad, long-acuminate at apex, cuneate and slightly decurrent at base; leaf tissue membranous, pale green, scarcely paleaceous, except on margins, the midrib beneath not paleaceous, the scales of the surface minute, sparse, deciduous, reduced to few-celled, glandular hairs, the marginal scales soon deciduous, subulate from a cucullate base, 1 mm. long or less, deep brown; veins ending in a hydathode short of the margin, rather distant, 5 or 6

per cm.; fertile fronds rarely found, 1 or 2 to a plant, shorter than sterile, 6.5-15 cm. long, long-stipitate, the stipe 5-8 cm. long, sometimes about equaling blade, paleaceous as in the sterile; blades oblong-linear, 4-7 cm. long, 6-10 mm. wide, acutish at apex, cuneate at base, not pubescent or paleaceous, the sterile margin very narrow.

Lectotype: Jenman did not indicate a type nor cite a specimen. As lectotype may be designated a specimen in the British Museum collected in Jamaica by R. V. Sherring labelled *Acrostichum hybridum* var. This agrees with Jenman's brief description and was almost certainly studied by him; islectotype, US.

Jenman's conception of *Acrostichum hybridum* Bory and his description (Bull. Dept. Bot. Jam., II, 5: 89. 1898) were based on specimens of the allied species *Elaphoglossum erinaceum* (Fée) Moore, but his var. *denudatum* is not referable to that. The variety is much closer to the African *E. hybridum*, but it does differ consistently in lacking conspicuous dark scales along the midrib beneath, and considering the geographic remoteness it is best regarded as a distinct species.

The name *Elaphoglossum denudatum* (Jenm.) Maxon appears on page 27 of Mr. George R. Proctor's "A Preliminary Checklist of Jamaican Pteridophytes" but with the non-existent name "*Acrostichum denudatum* Jenm." given as basionym and without the citation of any place of publication. Although Proctor puts the specific epithet in bold-face as a new combination, it can not be considered as published and is properly omitted from the Gray Catalog, for the "Checklist" is dated May 15, 1953, which is after the date set by the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature requiring the complete citation of basionyms for the valid publication of new combinations.

ADDITIONAL SPECIMENS EXAMINED (all US except as indicated):

JAMAICA: Epiphytes on smooth trunk of forest trees in deep ravine in mountain forest above House Hill, St. Thomas, 500-700 m., *Maxon* 9076 9120 9129. Upper southern slopes and summit of Maccasucker Bump, St. Thomas, 825-1025 m., *Maxon* 9546. On rocky bank, Second Breakfast Spring, near Tweedside, 2000 feet, *Harris* 7433 (Hope Gard., US), *Maxon* 903. Vicinity of Hollymount, Mount Diablo, *Maxon* 1919. Mansfield, near Bath, 300-500 m., *Maxon* 2409. Spur of John Crow Mountains opposite Mill Bank, Portland, in deep forest on large tree-trunk, 450-625 m., *Maxon* 9380. Sin. loc., *J.P.* 343 (Hope Gard.)

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